The mad-brain'd bridegroom took him ſuch a *cuff*,
That down fell prieſt and book, and book and prieſt. *Shak.*
There was, for a while, no money bid for argument, unleſs the poet and the player went to *cuffs* in the queſtion.
Shakeſpeare's Hamlet.

He gave her a *cuff* on the ear, and ſhe would prick him with her knitting-needle. *Arbuthnot's Hiſtory of John Bull.*
Their own ſects, which now lie dormant, would be ſoon at *cuffs* again with each other about power and preferment. *Swift.*

2. It is uſed of birds that fight with their talons.

To CUFF. *v. n.* [from the noun.] To fight; to ſcuffle.
Clapping farces acted by the court,
While the peers *cuff*, to make the rabble ſport. *Dryd. Juv.*

To CUFF. *v. a.*

1. To ſtrike with the fiſt.
I'll after him again, and beat him.——
——Do, *cuff* him ſoundly; but never draw thy ſword. *Shakeſ.*
Well, ſir Joſeph, at your intreaty; but were not you, my friend, abuſed and *cuffed*, and kicked? *Congreve's Old Batchelor.*

2. To ſtrike with talons.
Thoſe lazy owls, who, perch'd near fortune's top,
Sit only watchful with their heavy wings
To *cuff* down new-fledg'd virtues, that would riſe
To nobler heights, and make the grove harmonious. *Otway.*
The daſtard crow, that to the wood made wing,
With her loud kaws her craven kind does bring,
Who, ſafe in numbers, *cuff* the noble bird. *Dryden.*
They with their quills did all the hurt they cou'd,
And *cuff'd* the tender chickens from their food. *Dryden.*

3. To ſtrike with wings. This ſeems improper.
How'ring about the coaſts they make their moan,
And *cuff* the cliffs with pinions not their own. *Dryd. Æn.*

CUFF. *n. ſ.* [*coeffe*, French.] Part of the ſleeve.
He railed at fops; and, inſtead of the common faſhion, he would viſit his miſtreſs in a morning-gown, band, ſhort *cuffs*, and a peaked beard. *Arbuthnot's Hiſtory of John Bull.*

CUʹIRAGE. *n. ſ.* The making up of twine into ſuch forms, as it is commonly framed into, for carriage to other places *Cowel.*

CUIRASS. *n. ſ.* [*cuiraſſe*, Fr. from *cuir*, leather; *coraccia*, Ital.] A breaſtplate.
The lance purſu'd the voice without delay,
And pierc'd his *cuiraſs*, with ſuch fury ſent,
And ſign'd his boſom with a purple dint. *Dryden.*

CUIRAʹSSIER. *n. ſ.* [from *cuiraſs*.] A man at arms; a ſoldier in armour.
The field all iron, caſt a gleaming brown,
Nor wanted clouds of foot, nor on each horn
Cuiraſſiers, all in ſteel, for ſtanding fight. *Milt. Parad. Reg.*
The picture of St. George, wherein he is deſcribed like a *cuiraſſier*, or horſeman completely armed, is rather a ſymbolical image than any proper figure. *Brown's Vulgar Errours.*

CUISH. *n. ſ.* [*cuiſſe*, French.] The armour that covers the thighs.
I ſaw young Harry, with his beaver on,
His *cuiſſes* on his thighs, gallantly arm'd,
Riſe from the ground like feather'd Mercury. *Shak. Hen. IV.*
The croſlet ſome, and ſome the *cuiſſes* mould,
With ſilver plated, and with ductile gold. *Dryden's Æn.*
But what had our author to wound Æneas with at ſo critical a time? And how came the *cuiſſes* to be worſe tempered than the reſt of his armour? *Dryden's Virg. Æn. Dedicat.*

CUʹLDEES. *n. ſ.* [*colidei*, Latin.] Monks in Scotland.

CUʹLERAGE. *n. ſ.* The ſame plant with ARSE-SMART. *Ainſw.*

CUʹLINARY. *adj.* [*culina*, Latin.] Relating to the kitchen; relating to the art of cookery.
Great weight may condenſe thoſe vapours and exhalations, as ſoon as they ſhall at any time begin to aſcend from the ſun, and make them preſently fall back again into him, and by that action increaſe his heat; much after the manner that, in our earth, the air increaſes the heat of a *culinary* fire. *Newton.*
To thoſe, who, by reaſon of their northern expoſition, will be ſtill forced to be at the expence of *culinary* fires, it will reduce the price of their manufacture. *Arbuthnot.*

To CULL. *v. a.* [*cueillir*, French.] To ſelect from others; to pick out of many.
The beſt of every thing they had, being *culled* out for themſelves, if there were in their flocks any poor diſeaſed thing not worth the keeping, they thought it good enough for the altar of God. *Hooker, b. v. ſect. 34.*
Our engines ſhall be bent
Againſt the brows of this reſiſting town:
Call for our chieſeſt men of diſcipline,
To *cull* the plots of beſt advantage. *Shakeſp. King John.*
Like the bee, *culling* from ev'ry flow'r,
Our thighs are packt with wax, our mouths with honey. *Sh.*
In this covert will we make our ſtand,
Culling the principal of all the deer. *Shakeſ. Hen. VI. p. iii.*
I do remember an apothecary
In tatter'd weeds, with overwhelming brows,
Culling of ſimples. *Shakeſpeare's Romeo and Juliet.*

Then in a moment fortune ſhall *cull* forth,
Out of one ſide, her happy minion. *Shakeſp. King John.*
The choiceſt of the Britiſh, the Roman, Saxon, and Norman laws, being *culled*, as it were, this grand charter was extracted. *Howel's Parley of Beaſts.*
When falſe flow'rs of rhetorick thou would'ſt *cull*,
Truſt nature, do not labour to be dull. *Dryden.*
From his herd he *culls*,
For ſlaughter, four the faireſt of his bulls. *Dryd. Virg. Geor.*
When the current pieces of the ſame denomination are of different weights, then the traders in money *cull* out the heavier, and melt them down with profit. *Locke.*
With humble duty and officious haſte,
I'll *cull* the fartheſt mead for thy repaſt. *Prior.*
The various off'rings of the world appear:
From each ſhe nicely *culls* with curious toil,
And decks the goddeſs with the glitt'ring ſpoil. *Pope.*

CUʹLLER. *n. ſ.* [from *cull.*] One who picks or chooſes.

CUʹLLION. *n. ſ.* [*coglione*, a fool, Ital. perhaps from *ſcullion.* It ſeems to import meanneſs rather than folly.] A ſcoundrel; a mean wretch.
Such a one as leaves a gentleman,
And makes a god of ſuch a *cullion*. *Shak. Tam. of the Shrew.*
Up to the breach, you dogs; avaunt, you *cullions*. *Shakeſ.*

CUʹLLIONLY. *adj.* [from *cullion.*] Having the qualities of a cullion; mean; baſe.
I'll make a ſop o' th' moonſhine of you: you whorſon, *cullionly*, barber-monger, draw. *Shakeſpeare's King Lear.*

CUʹLLUMBINE. *n. ſ.* [more properly ſpelt COLUMBINE, which ſee.] The flowers of this plant are beautifully variegated with blue, purple, red, and white. *Miller.*
Her goodly boſom, like a ſtrawberry-bed;
Her neck, like to a bunch of *cullumbines*. *Spenſer's Sonnets.*

CUʹLLY. *n. ſ.* [*coglione*, Ital. a fool.] A man deceived or impoſed upon; as, by ſharpers or a ſtrumpet.
Why ſhould you, whoſe mother wits
Are furniſh'd with all perquiſits,
B' allow'd to put all tricks upon
Our *cully* ſex, and we uſe none? *Hudibras, p. iii.*
Yet the rich *cullies* may their boaſting ſpare:
They purchaſe but ſophiſticated ware. *Dryden.*
He takes it in mighty dudgeon, becauſe I won't let him make me over by deed as his lawful *cully*. *Arbuthnot.*

To CUʹLLY. *v. a.* [from the noun.] To befool; to cheat; to trick; to deceive; to impoſe upon.

CULMIʹFEROUS. *adj.* [*culmus* and *fero*, Latin.]
Culmiferous plants are ſuch as have a ſmooth jointed ſtalk, and uſually hollow; and at each joint the ſtalk is wrapped about with ſingle, narrow, long, ſharp-pointed leaves, and their ſeeds are contained in chaffy huſks. *Quincy.*
There are alſo ſeveral ſorts of graſſes, both of the Cyprus and *culmiferous* kinds; ſome with broader, others with narrower leaves. *Woodward on Foſſils.*
The propereſt food of the vegetable kingdom is taken from the farinaceous or mealy ſeeds of ſome *culmiferous* plants; as oats, barley, wheat, rice, rye, maize, panic, millet. *Arbuthn.*

To CULMINATE. *v. n.* [*culmen*, Latin.] To be vertical; to be in the meridian.
Far and wide his eye commands:
For ſight no obſtacle found here, or ſhade,
But all ſunſhine; as when his beams at noon
Culminate from th' equator. *Milton's Paradiſe Loſt, b. iii.*

CULMINAʹTION. *n. ſ.* [from *culminate.*] The tranſit of a planet through the meridian.

CULPABIʹLITY. *n. ſ.* [from *culpable.*] Blameableneſs.

CUʹLPABLE. *adj.* [*culpabilis*, Latin.]

1. Criminal.
Proceed no ſtraiter 'gainſt our uncle Glo'ſter,
Than from true evidence of good eſteem,
He be approv'd in practice *culpable*. *Shakeſp. Henry VI. p. ii.*

2. Guilty.
Theſe being perhaps *culpable* of this crime, or favourers of their friends. *Spenſer's State of Ireland.*

3. Blameable; blameworthy.
The wiſdom of God ſetteth before us in Scripture ſo many admirable patterns of virtue, and no one of them, without ſomewhat noted wherein they were *culpable*, to the end that to him alone it might always be acknowledged, *Thou only art holy, Thou only art juſt*. *Hooker's Preface.*
All ſuch ignorance is voluntary, and therefore *culpable*; for as much as it was in every man's power to have prevented it. *South's Sermons.*

CUʹLPABLENESS. *n. ſ.* [from *culpable.*] Blame; guilt.

CUʹLPABLY. *adv.* [from *culpable.*] Blameably; criminally.
If we perform this duty pitifully and *culpably*, it is not to be expected we ſhould communicate holily *Taylor.*

CUʹLPRIT. *n. ſ.* [about this word there is great diſpute. It is uſed by the judge at criminal trials, who, when the priſoner declares himſelf not guilty, and puts himſelf upon his trial, anſwers; *Culprit, God ſend thee a good deliverance*. It is likely that it is a corruption of *Qu'il ſoit fait, May it ſo appear*, the

with of the judge being that the priſoner may be found innocent.] A man arraigned before his judge.
The knight appear'd, and ſilence they proclaim;
Then firſt the *culprit* anſwer'd to his name;
And, after forms of law, was laſt requir'd
To name the thing that woman moſt deſir'd. *Dryden.*
An author is in the condition of a *culprit*; the publick are his judges: by allowing too much, and condeſcending too far, he may injure his own cauſe; and by pleading and aſſerting too boldly, he may diſpleaſe the court. *Prior's Pref. to Solomon.*

CUʹLTER. *n. ſ.* [*culter*, Latin.] The iron of the plow perpendicular to the ſheare. It is commonly written *coulter*.
Her fallow lees
The darnel, hemlock, and rank fumitory,
Doth root upon; while that the *culter* ruſts,
That ſhould deracinate ſuch ſavagery. *Shakeſpeare's Hen. V.*

To CULTIVATE. *v. a.* [*cultiver*, French.]

1. To forward or improve the product of the earth, by manual induſtry.
Thoſe excellent ſeeds implanted in your birth, will, if *cultivated*, be moſt flouriſhing in production; and, as the ſoil is good, and no coſt nor care wanting to improve it, we muſt entertain hopes of the richeſt harveſt. *Felton on the Claſſicks.*

2. To improve; to meliorate.
Were we but leſs indulgent to our faults,
And patience had to *cultivate* our thoughts,
Our muſe would flouriſh. *Waller.*
To make man mild and ſociable to man,
To *cultivate* the wild licentious ſavage
With wiſdom, diſcipline, and liberal arts,
Th' embelliſhments of life. *Addiſon's Cato.*

CULTIVAʹTION. *n. ſ.* [from *cultivate.*]

1. The art or practice of improving ſoils, and forwarding or meliorating vegetables.

2. Improvement in general; promotion; melioration.
An innate light diſcovers the common notions of good and evil, which, by *cultivation* and improvement, may be advanced to higher and brighter diſcoveries. *South's Sermons.*
A foundation of good ſenſe, and a *cultivation* of learning, are required to give a ſeaſoning to retirement, and make us taſte the bleſſing. *Dryden.*

CULTIVAʹTOR. *n. ſ.* [from *cultivate.*] One who improves, promotes, or meliorates; or endeavours to forward any vegetable product, or any thing elſe capable of improvement.
It has been lately complained of, by ſome *cultivators* of clover-graſs, that from a great quantity of the ſeed not any graſs ſprings up. *Boyle's Unſucceſsful Experiments.*

CUʹLTURE. *n. ſ.* [*cultura*, Latin.]

1. The act of cultivation; the act of tilling the ground; tillage.
Give us ſeed unto our heart, and *culture* to our underſtanding, that there may come fruit of it. *2 Eſd viii. 6.*
Theſe three laſt were flower than the ordinary wheat of itſelf, and this *culture* did rather retard than advance. *Bacon.*
The plough was not invented 'till after the deluge; the earth requiring little or no care or *culture*, but yielding its increaſe freely, and without labour and toil. *Woodward.*
Where grows?—Where grows it not? If vain our toil,
We ought to blame the *culture*, not the ſoil.
Fix'd to no ſpot is happineſs ſincere. *Pope's Eſſay on Man.*
They roſe as vigorous as the ſun;
Then to the *culture* of the willing glebe. *Thomſon's Spring.*

2. Art of improvement and melioration.
One might wear any paſſion out of a family by *culture*, as ſkilful gardeners blot a colour out of a tulip that hurts its beauty. *Tatler, N°. 75.*

To CUʹLTURE. *v. a.* [from the noun.] To cultivate; to manure; to till. It is uſed by *Thomſon*, but without authority.

CUʹLVER. *n. ſ.* [*culfre*, Saxon.] A pigeon. An old word.
Had he ſo done, he had him ſnatch'd away,
More light than *culver* in the faulcon's fiſt. *Fairy Queen.*
Whence, borne on liquid wings,
The ſound *culver* ſhoots. *Thomſon's Spring.*

CUʹLVERIN. *n. ſ.* [*coleuvrine*, French.] A ſpecies of ordnance.
A whole cannon requires, for every charge, forty pounds of powder, and a bullet of ſixty-four pounds; a *culverin*, ſixteen pounds of powder, and a bullet of nineteen pounds; a demi-*culverin*, nine pounds of powder, and a bullet of twelve pounds. *Wilkins's Math. Magick.*
Here a well-poliſh'd mall gives us the joy
To ſee our prince his matcheſs force employ:
No ſooner has he touch'd the flying ball,
But 'tis already more than half the mall;
And ſuch a fury from his arm't has got,
As from a ſmoaking *culverin* 'twere ſhot. *Waller.*

CUʹLVERKEY. *n. ſ.* A ſpecies of flower.
Looking down the meadows I could ſee a girl cropping *culverkeys* and cowſlips, to make garlands. *Walton's Angler.*

To CUʹMBER. *v. a.* [*kommeren*, *lemberen*, to diſturb, Dutch.]

1. To embarraſs; to entangle; to obſtruct.
Why aſks he, what avails him not in fight,
And would but *cumber*, and retard his flight,

In which his only excellence is plac'd!
You give him death, that intercept his haſte. *Dryd. Fables.*
Hardly his head the plunging pilot rears,
Clog'd with his cloaths, and *cumber'd* with his years. *Dryd.*
The learning and maſtery of a tongue, being uneaſy and unpleaſant enough in itſelf, ſhould not be *cumbered* with any other difficulties, as is done in this way of proceeding. *Locke.*

2. To croud or load with ſomething uſeleſs.
I come ſeeking fruit on this fig-tree, and find none: cut it down, why *cumbereth* it the ground? *Lu. xiii. 7.*
Let it not *cumber* your better remembrance. *Shakeſp. Timon.*
The multiplying variety of arguments, eſpecially frivolous ones, is not only loſt labour, but *cumbers* the memory to no purpoſe. *Locke.*

3. To involve in difficulties and dangers; to diſtreſs.
Domeſtick fury, and fierce civil ſtrife,
Shall *cumber* all the parts of Italy. *Shakeſpeare's Jul. Cæſar.*

4. To buſy; to diſtract with multiplicity of cares.
Martha was *cumbered* about much ſerving. *Luke, x. 40.*

5. To be troubleſome in any place.
Doth the bramble *cumber* a garden? It makes the better hedge; where, if it chances to prick the owner, it will tear the thief. *Grew's Coſmol. b. iii. c. 2. ſect. 47.*

CUʹMBER. *n. ſ.* [*komber*, Dutch.] Vexation; embarraſſment; obſtruction; hindrance; diſturbance; diſtreſs.
By the occaſion thereof I was brought to as great *cumber* and danger, as lightly any might eſcape. *Sidney, b. ii.*
Thus fade thy helps, and thus thy *cumbers* ſpring. *Spenſer.*
The greateſt ſhips are leaſt ſerviceable, go very deep in water, are of marvellous charge and fearful *cumber*. *Raleigh.*

CUʹMBERSOME. *adj.* [from *cumber.*]

1. Troubleſome; vexatious.
Thinking it too early, as long as they had any day, to break off ſo pleaſing a company, with going to perform a *cumberſome* obedience. *Sidney, b. ii.*

2. Burthenſome; embarraſſing.
I was drawn in to write the firſt part by accident, and to write the ſecond by ſome defects in the firſt: theſe are the *cumberſome* perquiſites of authors. *Arbuthnot on Aliments.*

3. Unweildy; unmanageable.
Very long tubes are *cumberſome*, and ſcarce to be readily managed. *Newton's Opt.*

CUʹMBERSOMELY. *adj.* [from *cumberſome.*] In a troubleſome manner; in a manner that produces hindrance and vexation.

CUʹMBERSOMENESS. *n. ſ.* [from *cumberſome.*] Encumbrance; hindrance; obſtruction.

CUʹMBRANCE. *n. ſ.* [from *cumber.*] Burthen; hindrance; impediment.
Extol not riches then, the toil of fools,
The wiſe man's *cumbrance*, if not ſnare; more apt
To ſlacken virtue, and abate her edge,
Than prompt her to do aught may merit praiſe. *Milt. P. L.*

CUʹMBROUS. *adj.* [from *cumber.*]

1. Troubleſome; vexatious; diſturbing.
A cloud of *cumbrous* gnats do him moleſt;
All ſtriving to infix their feeble ſtings,
That from their noyance he no where can reſt. *Fairy Queen.*

2. Oppreſſive; burthenſome.
Henceforth I fly not death, nor would prolong
Life much! Bent rather, how I may be quit,
Faireſt and eaſieſt, of this *cumbrous* charge. *Milt. Par. Loſt.*
Black was his counʼnance in a little ſpace;
For all the blood was gather'd in his face:
Help was at hand; they rear'd him from the ground,
And from his *cumbrous* arms his limbs unbound;
Then lanc'd a vein. *Dryden.*
Poſſeſſion's load was grown ſo great,
He ſunk beneath the *cumbrous* weight. *Swift.*

3. Jumbled; obſtructing each other.
Swift to their ſeveral quarters haſted then
The *cumbrous* elements, earth, flood, air, fire. *Milt. P. Loſt.*

CUʹMFREY. *n. ſ.* A medicinal plant.

CUʹMIN. *n. ſ.* [*cuminum*, Latin.] A plant.
The root is annual, the leaves like thoſe of fenel: the ſeeds ſmall, long, narrow, and crooked; two of which ſucceed each other's flower, as in other umbelliferous plants. The ſeeds of this plant are uſed in medicine, which are brought from the iſland of Malta, where it is cultivated; for it is too tender for our climate. *Miller.*
Rank-ſmelling rue, and *cumin*, good for eyes. *Spenſer.*

To CUʹMULATE. *v. a.* [*cumulo*, Latin.] To heap together.
A man that beholds the mighty ſhoals of ſhells, bedded and *cumulated* heap upon heap, amongſt earth, will ſcarcely conceive which way theſe could ever live. *Woodward's Nat. Hiſt.*

CUMULAʹTION. *n. ſ.* The act of heaping together. *Dict.*

CUNCTAʹTION. *n. ſ.* [*cunctatio*, Latin.] Delay; procraſtination; dilatorineſs.
It is moſt certain, that the Engliſh made not their beſt improvements of theſe fortunate events; and that eſpecially by two miſerable errours, *cunctation* in proſecuting, and haſte in departure. *Haywood.*
The ſwifteſt animal, conjoined with a heavy body, implies that